AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces and supersedes all prior listings in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1-11. (Canceled).
- 12. (Currently amended): A cosmetic composition comprising a mixture of poly- α -olefins produced by dehydrating polymerization at a temperature in the range of from 60 °C to 340 °C, in the presence of acidic alumino layer silicates, of at least one primary alcohol selected from the group consisting of
 - a) unsaturated monofunctional alcohols;
 - b) branched monofunctional alcohols; and
 - c) difunctional alcohols,

wherein said mixture of poly- α -olefins produced by dehydrating polymerization provides a cosmetic composition having storage-stability with respect to viscosity, as well as storage-stability with respect to separation, versus the analogous cosmetic composition comprising poly- α -olefins produced by homopolymerization of α -olefins.

- 13. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the primary alcohol contains 6 to 72 carbon atoms.
- 14. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the group b) alcohol comprises at least one alcohol selected from the group consisting of branched alcohols having
 - b1) at least one methyl branch in the alkyl chain,
 - b2) a C₂₋₁₈ branch in the alkyl chain and
 - b3) a C_{2-18} branch in the α -position to the terminal CH₂OH group.

- 15. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein said group b) alcohol comprises a Guerbet alcohol.
- 16. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the group a) alcohol comprises a linear alcohol.
- 17. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein said at least one primary alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and said mixture of poly- α -olefins is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.
- 18. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the composition is a member selected from the group consisting of a w/o or o/w emulsion.
- 19. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, comprising 1 to 50% by weight of oil components.
- 20. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein said mixture of poly- α -olefins comprises from 0.1% to 100% by weight of the total oil components of the composition.
- 21. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, further comprising 0.1% to 20% by weight of a surface-active substance or a mixture of surface-active substances.
- 22. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the group b) alcohol comprises at least one alcohol selected from the group consisting of branched alcohols having
 - b1) at least one methyl branch in the alkyl chain,
 - b2) a C₂₋₁₈ branch in the alkyl chain and

- b3) a C_{2-18} branch in the α -position to the terminal CH₂OH group.
- 23. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein b1) has from 1 to 6 methyl branches in the alkyl chain.
- 24. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the group a) alcohol comprises a linear alcohol.
- 25. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein said at least one primary alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and said mixture of poly- α -olefins is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.
- 26. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein said at least one primary alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and said mixture of poly- α -olefins is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.
- 27. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein said at least one primary alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and said mixture of poly- α -olefins is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.
- 28. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the composition is a member selected from the group consisting of a w/o or o/w emulsion.
- 29. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition of claim 12 containing from 5% to 40% by weight of oil components.

30-32. (Canceled):

- 33. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition of claim 12 wherein said mixture of poly- α -olefins has a high spreading value of >1000 mm²/10 min.
- 34. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition of claim 12 wherein said at least one primary alcohol is selected from the group consisting of 2-ethylhexanol and isononanol.